**Directions:** Interact with this song – ANNOTATE it. By interacting, I mean that you have personalized it by marking questions and reactions in the margin next to the text. Some people think of this as having a dialogue or conversation with the actual words on the page. Organizing your thoughts by using different colors to mark different ideas is an extremely effective approach. Things you should consider doing include:

* Circling and then looking up any vocabulary words that you do not know
* Underlining key phrases
* Keeping track of the story or idea as it unfolds
* Noting word patterns and repetitions or anything that strikes you as confusing or important
* Writing down questions
* Jotting down any connections, thoughts, or other insights you might have
* WATCH FOR REFERENCES TO THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION AND PEOPLE IN IT

"Tiempos Amargos" (Bitter Times)

Oh, how pleasant it is to live

during these times of today.

We are the *agraristas*,

though some people still doubt it.

These are no longer the times of Porfirio (Díaz),

when they cried for the master

when they’d meet him, they’d shake his hand,

and button his pants.

If one day the steward

became angry with a worker

it was because there was another one

closer to the snaps of his pants.

If someone had pretty daughters

he’d get a job as a night watchman,

or else he’d land a good job,

at least as a payroll clerk.

If someone had a pretty wife

they didn’t let him rest,

they’d get them up very early

to work just like the oxen.

I bid you farewell, friends,

you’ll forgive my frankness.

I’ve sung about the bitter times

under the Porfiristas.